

INFORMATION

October 16, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Peter Rodman

SUBJECT: The Lotus Pod

The lotus pod water dropper is from the K'ang Hsi period, 17th-18th century. The item is known to connoisseurs as a "coupe" (or cup) and its function, as the Governor told you, is to hold a small amount of water for artists to dip their brushes into.

The K'ang Hsi period is of some interest to sophisticated collectors, because the Chinese produced many items for export then. This particular item is nevertheless authentically Chinese in design and function, and was in no sense made for a foreign market.

I am told that the function and period of this water dropper will be unmistakable to any Chinese expert.

(This information comes from Mrs. Lutkins, the Rockefeller porcelain expert.)